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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Grouzmann, *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/897,433

Filed: July 3, 2001

For: **Treatment of Substance P-Related Disorders**

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: J. Witz

Atty. Dkt.: 7571/73193
(Formerly 81985/279329)

Response to Species Election Requirement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 2, 2002, Applicants hereby elect arthritic disease, which is recited in claim 1 and which is also encompassed by claims 13, 17 and 18. As a species of peptidase, Applicants hereby elect dipeptidyl peptidase IV. This is presently encompassed by all of the claims in the application. Claims that read on *both* arthritic disease and dipeptidyl peptidase IV are claims 1, 13, 17 and 18.

This election is made without traverse.

Applicants do not believe that any fees, other than those that may be already provided for herewith, are required for the filing of the present document. Nevertheless, any additional fees that may be required may be charge to our Deposit Account No. 06-1135 under Order No. 7571/73193.

If the Examiner believes that a phone call may help to expedite this matter, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (202) 419-7013.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By

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Date November 5, 2002
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